Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0129] with the following amended paragraph.

[0129] The mAb 4F11 affinity column was prepared using 4F11(G_1) and ~~Reactigel~~ REACTIGEL resin (Pierce) following the manufacturer's instructions. Briefly, 10 mL of 1.7 mg/mL 4F11(G1) were coupled to 3 mL 6x ~~Reactigel~~ REACTIGEL overnight at 4°C. The supernatant was removed, the resin was blocked with pH 9.0 1.0 ~~M ethanolamine~~ Methanolamine and washed with PBS prior to use. *P. carinii* antigens recognized by mAb 4F11 were purified from 1 mL sonicated *P. carinii*-infected SCID mouse lung homogenates (8×10^6 organisms) by passage over the mAb 4F11 affinity column five times, followed by 2 washes with 10 mL PBS and elution with pH 2.5 100 mM glycine buffer.

Please replace paragraph [0038] with the following amended paragraph.

[0038] Variants of the isolated protein or polypeptide of this embodiment are encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that (i) contains the nucleotide sequence of 1-837 of the *Pneumocystis* A12 clone (SEQ ID NO: 4, see Figure 2B) or the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 66 (*see* Figures 8A-B), (ii) shares at least about 85 percent identity, more preferably at least about 90 or at least about 95 percent identity, to the nucleotide sequence of 1-837 of the *Pneumocystis* A12 clone (SEQ ID NO: 4) or the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 66, or (iii) hybridizes overnight (i.e., about 12 to about 18 hours) to the nucleotide sequence of 1-837 of the *Pneumocystis* A12 clone (SEQ ID NO: 4) or the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 66 under stringency conditions of a hybridization medium that contains at most about 10X ~~SSC~~ standard sodium citrate ("SSC") and a temperature of about 50°C or greater followed by wash conditions at or above stringency conditions of the hybridization (e.g., 0.1X SSC at 60°C). The *Pneumocystis* A12 clone is described in the accompanying Examples and at GenBank accession AY371664, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.